



Empire School
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S uccess O wnership A ttitude R espect

Empire School Council - MINUTES

May 10, 2017. 7:00 PM

Present: Peter, Louise, Kelly, Justin, Lindsay, Karen Masden, Rachel, Jill Pettifer, Andrea, Anna, Caitlin, Lindsay

Regrets: Karen Moore, Jess G, Steph H, Erica, Beth

- 1) **Welcome and introductions (5 min)**

- 2) **JR Mashup (French Immersion and English Students together)**

Jill Pettifer presented her Masters project (WLU – Community Music) – focused on getting the french immersion and English students to know each other better. Some feel it's like "it's two schools under roof". A program was created called "Mash Up". Planned 3 rounds of various activities and kids were randomized to groups. Activities planned were collaborative and not competitive. Student and teacher feedback has been very positive and other grades have been inspired by (e.g. Grade 2 genius project). Parent Council all agreed this is a great initiative and would like to champion this goal in the school.

- 3) **Approval of April minutes (5 min)**

Approved by Caitlin and Justin.

- 4) **Events/Fundraising**

a) End of year celebration (Justin) (5 min)

- Basically is planned re: food trucks and entertainment
- Cake raffle will benefit the OneRoof Youth Services organization
- Advertisements and promotion
 - Repeat messaging on various dates and various mediums (posters, flyers, twitter) are needed (learned from May 9 Beertown night that more promotion will be helpful)
 - Rachel will Update last year's flyer text and pass onto Amy B to design
 - Rachel will draft a student announcement
 - Kelly will collect the money from the vendors

b) Meet the teacher night (Sept) update (Justin) (5 min)

- Wednesday, September 13, 2017 is booked (4:45 start time)
- Boston Pizza, Berlin, Schmuck Truck and Fo Cheezy and Fo Cheezy dessert truck are also booked
 - Reflect on Year End Celebration to see what the ideal number of trucks is, cancel if needed.

c) Grade 6 Year-End Assembly

- Monday June 26th: Anna will purchase and deliver the cupcakes
- \$175 budget for this

d) Year End

- Rachel will take care of flowers and thank you cards for retirements, staff leaving, etc.

5) Finance Report (Rachel) (15 min)

- Rachel presented highlights of the finances:
 - Move-A-Thon was a very successful fundraiser this year.
 - May 9/17 Beertown fundraiser was lower attendance than previous event. Still waiting for numbers.
 - We received two commission cheques from Pita Pit.
 - Lunch support program has exceeded allocated budget.
 - Motion to continue lunch support orders until end of year (Pitas and Subs), including new families.
 - One Book One School, Administrative Professionals Day, and all Staff appreciation expenses in and accounted for.
 - Front gardens have been upgraded by Mr Scheidel et al and expenses will match the budget allocated.
 - Recess kits have not yet been purchased. Karen Masden will order these.
 - Two teachers have selected the home reading books to purchase from the allocation from funds we committed in 2015/2016.
 - June meeting we will discuss what to do with a surplus.
 - PRO (Parent Reaching Out) grant (to cover the ESQ fee) is due on May 25th . Andrea will take this on.

6) Principal / Vice Principal Reports (15 min)

- Upcoming events:
 - May 10 – Class picture day
 - May 17 - Kindergarten information night
 - May 19 – wacky hair day
 - May 24+25 (rain date May 26) – Junior Track and Field (grades 4-6)
 - May 22 -30 – grade 3 EQAO
 - May 29-31 – grade 6 EQAO
 - June 7 – Play Day (Canada theme)
 - June 14 – Year End Celebration
 - June 26- Report Card Day
- Child and Youth worker coming to Empire next year
- 25 classes booked for 2017/2018
- Full time ESL teacher is starting next week
- May 4 Curiosity Convention went well. Will change branding for next year to add “It’s like a Science Fair, but choose any topic you want” (in case the name is not understandable to all)
- September planning – reminder to families that there is no opportunity to select your child’s teacher for the fall.
- School Day is up and running, staff comfort is growing.

7) Parent questions and concerns (5 min)

8) Adjournment

Next meeting: Jun 21

To discuss at the beginning of next year:

- French and English integration
- Sponsor-A-lunch program
- Minimum of 6 meetings per year